

## GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

**A Third Three-Egg-Set of the Eastern Mourning Dove.**—Of the dozens of nests of the Eastern Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) that I have observed, the only nest with three eggs was found April 16, 1934. The frail nest was placed in the fork of a limb, overhanging a small pond.—KATIE M. ROADS, *Hillsboro, Ohio*.

**The European Starling in Osceola County, Iowa.**—On April 22, 1936, the writer saw two European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris*) in Osceola County, about a mile north of the O'Brien County line on Highway No. 59. This is the highway that extends north from Highway No. 18 a mile east of Sanborn. This record, I believe, fills up the state, the Starling having not previously been reported from Osceola County.—O. S. THOMAS, *Rock Rapids, Iowa*.

**The American Woodcock in Mahaska County, Iowa.**—On the afternoon of April 19, 1936, I observed an American Woodcock (*Philohela minor*) four miles southwest of Pella, in Mahaska County. I approached within twenty feet of the bird and observed it for some time. When flushed, the bird circled around and came back near the same place. The area was a marshy meadow near a small creek and was very close to the highway.—W. W. AITKEN, *Iowa Conservation Commission, Des Moines, Iowa*.

**Black Vultures Kill and Eat New-born Lambs.**—For over twenty years Black Vultures (*Coragyps atratus atratus*) have been residents of my cousin's farm. The numbers have varied from eighteen to forty, the drove now (1936) numbering eighteen. They were always associated with the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*). In the summer the Turkey Vultures outnumber the Black Vultures, but only three or four of the Turkey Vultures remain in the winter. In one flock of sheep the Black Vultures killed and ate every new-born lamb. They picked out their eyes, killed, and then ate them. Not only were they observed to do this, but it was noted that the Turkey Vulture had no part in these attacks. The same observations were made in the case of pigs; their eyes were picked out, they were killed, and then eaten. A few years ago on another farm Black Vultures killed and ate a few new-born pigs, but not all.—KATIE M. ROADS, *Hillsboro, Ohio*.

**Another Record of the American Egret in Polk County, Iowa.**—The writer wishes to add another record of the American Egret (*Herodias albus egretta*) to the ones that have been published by observers in the state. Three birds were seen in Polk County, Iowa, approximately three miles below Des Moines, on the Des Moines River on August 11, 1935. At the time the observation was made they were perched in the tops of a group of elm trees forty-five feet from the ground. These trees were near the water's edge. The birds were studied from a distance of sixty-five feet, so identification was positive.—WALTER ROSENE, JR., *Ogden, Iowa*.

**The Red-shafted Flicker in Boone County, Iowa.**—During a severe snow storm on January 30, 1936, I observed a Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer collaris*) at my home in Ogden, Iowa. A strong wind was blowing from the north and it flew directly over me toward the southwest, and the red under parts were plainly visible without the use of glasses. It alighted on the sheltered side of a